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USSR ADMIRAL INTERVIEWED ON NAVAL PROPOSALS

AU291700 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 27 Apr 82 p 6

[Interview given by Admiral Nikolay Amelko, deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, to APN commentator Vladimir Ostrovskiy: "To Reduce the Danger of Confrontation; Admiral N. Amelko on Proposals To Expand Confidence-Building Measures on the World Seas"; date and place not given, capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] WASHINGTON'S APPROACH TO THE NEW SOVIET PEACE PROPOSAL INITIATIVE CLEARLY SHOWS THAT IT IS AVERSE TO RELINQUISHING BOTH THE LINE AIMED AT CONFRONTATION AND THE ENDEAVOR TO CONTINUE ESCALATING THE FEVERISH ARMAMENT THAT IS SO DANGEROUS FOR MANKIND. THIS WAS STATED BY ADMIRAL NIKOLAY AMELKO, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE USSR'S ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF, TO VLADIMIR OSTROVSKIY, APN COMMENTATOR.

According to the enterprising new peace proposals to mutually limit the activities of naval fleets on the world seas; which have been submitted by Leonid Brezhnev, the Soviet Union is prepared to come to an agreement on withdrawing missile-carrying submarines on both sides from their present vast areas of combat patrol and limiting their cruising to areas within mutually agreed borders; and on expanding confidence-building measures on the seas and oceans, particularly so as to include the currently navigated routes. The Soviet Union also proposes not to open up another aspect of feverish armament; not to develop sea-launched long-range missiles with a flat trajectory.

Admiral Amelko recalled that, in the current complicated international situation, the realization of these proposals would contribute toward reducing world tension and toward substantially enhancing mutual security.

N. Amelko pointed out that American submarines, capable of launching missiles toward the territory of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries within 15 minutes are cruising on combat patrol in the Mediterranean, the northern Pacific, the central Atlantic and the Norwegian Sea. They represent a realistic danger to the security of the Soviet Union and other countries.

THIS DANGER IS ENHANCED BY FACT THAT THE AIRCRAFT CARRIERS OF U.S. NAVAL ASSAULT FORMATIONS ARE CRUISING IN THOSE WATERS AND ARE CAPABLE OF ATTACKING LAND AND SEA TARGETS 1,000 KILOMETERS AND MORE AWAY FROM THEIR COMBAT PATROL AREA. THE OPERATIONAL RADIUS OF COMBAT AIRCRAFT THAT ARE BASED ON CARRIER VESSELS AND WHICH CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS ENABLES THEM TO PLACE THE SOVIET CITIES DUSHANBE AND ASHKHABAD (IN CENTRAL ASIA) UNDER THREAT FROM THE PERSIAN GULF AREA, WITHOUT THE NEED TO REFUEL; AND THE CITIES BAKU, TASHKENT AND FRUNZE, WHEN REFUELLING IN THE AIR. THE AMERICAN SUBMARINES EQUIPPED WITH POSEIDON MISSILES ARE CAPABLE OF THREATENING WITH A NUCLEAR STRIKE FROM THE PERSIAN GULF AND THE READ SEA THE ENTIRE EUROPEAN PART OF THE USSR, AS WELL AS HUNGARY, BULGARIA, POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE GDR.

In these circumstances it became imperative for the Soviet Union to dispatch a smallish [nevelky] number of Soviet naval vessles into certain areas of the world seas. We have been forced to do this, N. Amelko stated. One should not forget that every American aircraft carrier holds up to 90 aircraft, including 40 nuclear weapon carriers. And how many nuclear missiles are targeted on us from the U.S. submarines?

The formations of Soviet naval vessels mentioned above include, as a rule, antisubmarine and patrol vessels, multipurpose submarines, and sometimes also cruisers. THE SOVIET VESSELS OPERATING ON THE WORLD SEAS ARE KEEPING A CONSTANT WATCH ON U.S. NAVAL FORMATIONS IN ORDER TO FRUSTRATE ANY SUDDEN ATTACK FROM THE SEA ON THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

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PRAVDA'S ZHUKOV ASSESSES ANTIWAR MOVEMENT

PM051405 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 82 p 4

[Article by Yu. Zhukov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace: "The Peoples' Will for Peace" -- capitalized passages printed in boldface type]

[Text] The storm wave of "Easter peace marches" which recently rolled along the roads of many West European and U.S. cities gave a very expressive reminder that the irresistible growth of the struggle against nuclear madness has become an important political factor.

Taking advantage of the holidays, hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated their indomitable will for peace. (In the FRG alone, nearly 500,000 people participated in the 3-day demonstrations.) And this is just the beginning of the peoples' spring and summer peace offensive! Still to come are mass nationwide protest actions which, as New York TIMES commentator Reston predicts, await President Reagan in June when he will turn up in Bonn to participate in a NATO session. Peace-loving forces are preparing broad demonstrations in New York for the occasion of the second UN General Assembly special mission on disarmament.

The unprecedented display of determination by the very broad popular masses to stop at all costs the preparation for war which is being cold-bloodedly planned and organized by the Pentagon and NATO is a characteristic of the new stage of the struggle now getting under way to save humanity from nuclear death. And although Washington, with increasing fury, is conducting its propaganda about the imaginary "Soviet threat" which allegedly compels the United States and its allies to conduct a race involving nuclear and other means of mass destruction, the masses, now aroused, are not letting themselves be fooled. What are the slogans inscribed on thousands of placards now being carried by demonstrators, as we see each evening on television? Let us read through them:

-- WE WILL NOT BE AMERICA'S GUINEA PIGS!

-- REAGAN, TAKE YOUR MISSILES OUT OF EUROPE!

-- GIVE US WORK, NOT BOMBS!

-- BETTER ACTIVE TODAY THAN RADIOACTIVE TOMORROW!

Truly moving and disturbing was the inscription on a placard attached to a child's stroller being pushed along the road by a young mother from Norway who was participating in a peace march: "IF THE NEUTRON BOMB EXPLODES, THIS STROLLER MAY REMAIN INTACT BUT MY SON WILL DIE. THIS CANNOT BE ALLOWED. THAT IS WHY I AM HERE"...

Even quite recently, U.S. and NATO leaders, who have shamelessly intensified the fatally dangerous nuclear arms race and have openly expatiated on "limited nuclear war," "nuclear warning shots and a nuclear first strike," felt they could ignore the peace champions' movement. Then, sensing that the movement was expanding, they tried to discredit it -- they began shouting that these were the intrigues of the "Kremlin's paid agents."

"All this was organized by the so-called WPC which has been bought and is financed by the Soviet Union," U.S. President Reagan cynically stated on 25 December last year.

This slanderous statement caused an outburst of indignation among participants in the anti-war demonstrations. "He is talking nonsense," was how A. Sullivan, representative of the pacifist "American Friends Service Committee," responded to the U.S. President's comment. "His statements prove he knows nothing about the peace-loving forces' movement." "President Reagan underestimates the power and scale of the movement of those opposed to nuclear arms," Herbert Scoville, a well-known American figure who heads the Arms Control Association, said. Many other figures also spoke in this spirit.

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MOSCOW CRITICIZES REAGAN ARMS INITIATIVE

Soltan Commentary

LD111446 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 11 May 82

[Yuriy Soltan commentary]

[Text] Washington and the NATO headquarters in Brussels are broadly advertising the American President's speech. At last Mr Reagan voiced readiness to resume strategic arms limitation talks with the Soviet Union, but even in Washington and Brussels the speech is seen as having been designed to create propaganda effect. A Brussels newspaper said the American President wanted to intercept the Soviet peace initiative and represent the United States as a peacemaker on the eve of the NATO summit to be held in June.

Politicians, military experts and observers are viewing President Reagan's proposals, which provide in very general terms for what may seem big cuts in strategic nuclear warheads, with a great degree of scepticism. The proposals are described as unrealistic and are therefore seen as another American attempt to secure military advantages to the detriment of the Soviet Union's security. The proposed cuts won't affect the American strategic arms determining the American strike capability. According to Mr Reagan's plan, at the first stage the number of American strategic bombers is not to be reduced at all, although the American strategic air force accounts for two-thirds of the U.S. nuclear potential. The United States has 570 strategic bombers, while the Soviet Union has 156. The American President proposed that the Soviet Union should dismantle the bulk of its land-based intercontinental missiles -- the backbone of its strategic forces -- while the United States will continue to install MX intercontinental missiles, deploy long-range cruise missiles on ships and aircraft and develop new generation nuclear arms.

One has every reason to agree with the former State Secretary Edmund Muskie, who said the President's proposals undermined the disarmament process and were a hopeless attempt to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. Other American politicians, too, sharply criticise the President's speech: Senators Edward Kennedy and Gary Hart pointed out that President Reagan's program did not provide for curbing American strategic bombers and missiles.

One of the leaders of the American movement for freezing nuclear arsenals, (Randall Keller), said that the President had either not paid heed to the opinion of the American people, or deliberately ignored their unequivocal demand for halting the arms race.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly said that it favors the immediate resumption of the process of strategic arms limitation and that it wants everything positive that has been achieved in this field to be retained. The Soviet Union has put forward a series of proposals on curbing strategic arms and voiced its readiness to agree on major cuts in strategic nuclear arms on the basis of strict compliance with the principle of equality and equal security.

TASS Views Speech

LD111648 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 11 May 82

["On the Statement by the U.S. President" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 11 May,TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan made a foreign policy speech on May 9. His statement was preceded, as it is now customary in Washington, by noisy publicity. The American and the world public was promised that this would be a kind of a "new word" in the U.S. approach to the major questions of the present time, and primarily to questions of relations with the Soviet Union.

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U.S. REACTION TO BREZHNEV PROPOSALS VIEWED

LD191618 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 19 May 82

[Text] Washington, 19 May, TASS -- We welcome the readiness proclaimed by President Leonid Brezhnev to embark on negotiations on substantial cuts in strategic nuclear weapons, said a statement released in Washington by a White House spokesman. The statement points out that the White House "will study in detail" the speech of the Soviet leader at the 19th YCL [Komsomol] Congress.

The U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that some of the Soviet proposals in the field of arms control were "compatible with the work done". He pointed out that during talks on limiting and reducing strategic armaments account may be taken of the positive elements of the previous Soviet-American agreements. He further said that the Russians clearly favoured genuine arms reductions. He said the U.S. welcomed that. Leonid Brezhnev's proposals on arms control speak about the need to take account of the security interests of each of the parties. It is clear that this does not run counter to a balanced approach to arms control. At the same time, Alexander Haig rejected the USSR's idea to freeze the Soviet and U.S. strategic weapons, which, according to observers, is dictated by Washington's desire to go on with the nuclear arms race.

Statements made by a White House spokesman and the U.S. secretary of state concerning reductions of strategic armaments reaffirm the American proposals to this effect presented by President Ronald Reagan and which testify to the fact that Washington would like to place outside the framework of negotiations those types of strategic weapons which the United States is at present developing most intensively -- the strategic MX and Trident-2 missiles, sea-based and air-based missiles and long-range cruise missiles on which the United States is especially staking at present. The possibility of limiting the strategic bomber fleet, in which the USA, as is known, possesses a substantial advantage, is only implicitly meant in this proposals, [as received] and is to be realised at the second stage of the reduction of strategic forces following elimination of a part of ground-based missiles. Corresponding strategic systems of Britain and France are not incorporated in U.S. proposals at all. As regards medium-range nuclear means, representatives of the U.S. administration again favour the so-called "zero option" which has been repeatedly rejected by the Soviet Union since it is tantamount to a unilateral disarmament by the USSR while the threat posed to it by the U.S. forward-based forces remains.

The U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said that the details of the problem of limiting and reducing strategic weapons are better to be discussed at the negotiating table and promised that the United States was prepared to show down all its cards.

Political analysts express the hope that these words will be complemented by concrete actions in the interests of limiting and reducing strategic weapons, and do not serve only as a camouflage for continuing the arms race and upsetting the current parity in the military-strategic sphere.

KHARKOV COMMENTS ON RECENT BREZHNEV PROPOSALS

LD192002 Moscow TASS in English 1931 GMT 19 May 82

["A Major New Initiative" -- TASS headline; by TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov]

[Text] Moscow, 19 May, TASS -- Already the first international responses to the speech made by Leonid Brezhnev on Tuesday at the congress of Soviet Komsomol in Moscow noted specifically that the Soviet Union is prepared to engage in talks on limiting and reducing strategic armaments and proposes to freeze strategic weapons of both the USSR and the USA as soon as the talks start. What is meant is quantitative freezing and limiting modernization of these weapons to a maximum extent.

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[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 12 May]

MATERIAL ON RESUMPTION OF GENEVA ARMS TALKS

Soviet Envoy on Talks

LD201920 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 20 May 82

[Text] Today in Geneva a new round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe got under way. Our correspondent Vsevolod Shishkovskiy reports:

The first meeting between the Soviet and U.S. delegations took place today at the Soviet mission at the UN offices and continued for around 3 hours. Immediately after it ended we asked Kvitsinskiy, head of the Soviet delegation and special envoy, to say a few words on the renewal of the Soviet-U.S. dialogue on nuclear arms limitation in Europe.

[Begin recording] Just over 2 months has gone by since the last meeting between the Soviet and U.S. delegations. During this time the Soviet Union has proposed several far-reaching initiatives. These practical steps by us were stated with all clarity and preciseness by the head of our party and our state Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, at the congress of the Soviet trade unions and at the Komsomol congress.

We are in favor of reducing nuclear weapons in Europe and in favor of a just solution to this problem. This readiness on the part of the Soviet Union is reinforced by concrete measures which the Soviet side is undertaking unilaterally right now, as it were, laying the foundations in advance for the prospects of a possible Soviet-U.S. agreement.

These actions of ours, which have been announced by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, are a combination of good will and belief in the need and possibility of reaching mutual understanding, to lessen the level of nuclear opposition in Europe and to avoid a new and dangerous spiral in the arms race.

But there are two participants at the talks and part of the way must be covered by the U.S. side if it understands the need for agreement and wants it.

The Soviet delegation did not come to Geneva emptyhanded. I would like to hope that the U.S. delegation has come to Geneva with baggage that will make it possible for it to contribute to achieving agreement on this important problem which brooks no delay. [end recording]

Shishlin Commentary

LD201318 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0445 GMT 20 May 82

["Topical Problems of International Life" program: commentary by international affairs journalist Nikolay Shishlin, entitled "For a Constructive Approach to the Problem of Limitation and Reduction of Nuclear Weapons"]

[Text] The speech by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the Komsomol congress has provoked a great deal of attention all over the world. This speech is now being carefully studied in senior political circles, is the subject of lively comment in the press and has become the common property of broad public circles. I am talking about its foreign policy section. First of all, the consistency of the Soviet position should be noted. The proposals made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, the ideas he expressed from the rostrum of the Komsomol congress, are essentially a development and continuation of the idea set out in the peace program for the eighties adopted by the 26th CPSU Congress.

This speech, however, came at a perfectly definite and specific moment of international development, in which confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States, between NATO and the member countries of the Warsaw Treaty, has reached a fair degree of rigidity. This situation contains a great threat. The reasons for the tension are also fairly interesting.

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BREZHNEV REPLIES TO PALME'S ARMS PROPOSALS

LD261732 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Moscow, 26 May, TASS -- President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev has been presented with the proposals and recommendations worked out by the independent Commission on Disarmament and Security, as well as with accompanying letter of its chairman, the prominent Swedish political figure Olof Palme. The commission proposals and recommendations will be presented to the 2nd emergency session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament, to heads of state and government.

In his letter, Olof Palme, stressing that the people on the commission hold different ideological and political views, cites those substantive conclusions which received general approval and provided the basis for the recommendations and proposals of the committion. This, above all, includes the conclusion that there will be no winners in the nuclear war and that the supreme responsibility lies in preventing the flaring up of a war, and in preserving peace. Secondly, this is the conviction that the belief in the possibility of a limited nuclear war is a dangerous illusion and, thirdly, the confidence in the need to replace the concept of deterrence based on stockpiling nuclear weapons by a doctrine of security for all.

Leonid Brezhnev has sent an answer to Olof Palme, which says:

"It was with interest that I familiarised myself with your letter. The proposals and recommendations of the commission headed by you, will be studied with due attention.

Since the time of our last meeting the Soviet Union has tabled a number of important initiatives aimed at limiting the arms race. We are resolved to continue our efforts in this field without a let-up. Among other things, we intend to do everything that depends on us so that the 2nd emergency session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament could be a success.

Proposing our initiatives, we at the same time are always prepared to heed and accommodate constructive proposals put forward by other governments of public. I wish to express the hope that the work of the commission you are heading will serve the cause of peace and security."

HORIZONT INTERVIEWS USSR COL GEN CHERVOV

AU260844 East Berlin HORIZONT in German No 21, 1982 p 4

[APN interview with Col Gen Nikolay Chervov, member of the USSR Military Forces General Staff: "What is Behind the U.S. 'Pillbox Strategy'?; date, place not given]

[Text] Question: The American press has recently been running a great number of articles dealing with the problem of survival in a nuclear war. They are even talking about a "pillbox strategy"?

Answer: People in the United States indeed have the unfortunate tendency and strange "hobby" of preparing themselves for a forthcoming disaster. "Survival clubs" are even being established in certain U.S. states. The members of these clubs are digging shelters and building pillboxes, and on the whole trying to frighten people.

At the same time propaganda noise is being made about the so-called pillbox strategy, which should represent the "underground foundation" for the Pentagon doctrine of the so-called "limited nuclear war." The goal of this "pillbox strategy" appears in an article written by Robert Sheer for the Los Angeles TIMES and published on 24 January 1982 which sums up quite unmistakable statements of official American institutions on this subject and reads as follows: "A nuclear arms conflict will not lead to total destruction."

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TASS CRITICIZES BUSH SPEECH ON ARMS RACE

LD271650 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Washington, 27 May, TASS -- U.S. Vice-President George Bush has made a speech at a Boston college which amounted to nothing more than a standard set of all sorts of fabrications regarding the problem of disarmament.

When speaking about the removal of the nuclear threat, what he did in actual fact was to advocate the arms race. But he also had to admit that the number of Americans, who are discontented with Ronald Reagan's policies and who doubt that the man in the White House shows interest in lessening the nuclear threat and ultimately eliminating it altogether, is growing. The U.S. Vice-President said therefore that the Reagan administration would make efforts to dissipate such doubts.

But his own speech, however, far from dissipating these doubts, was further evidence that the U.S. administration has vested interests in pursuing both the arms race and hegemonistic policy. George Bush cold-shouldered the proposals toward a freeze on nuclear arms, which, incidentally are also made in the United States itself. Without producing any serious arguments, he alleged that the Soviet Union was posing a threat to the United States and that U.S. nuclear arms (here George Bush used every word from the blackmail phrase-stock which is currently popular in the United States) would enable his country to bring pressure to bear on the Soviet Union and hold talks with it from "the position of strength."

SHISHLIN ON BREZHNEV REPLY TO PALME LETTER

[Commentary by international affairs journalist Nikolay Shishlin]

[Text] As is well known, in replying to the letter from Olof Palme, chairman of the Commission on Disarmament and Security, Leonid Brezhnev recalled some of the Soviet Union's initiatives on questions of disarmament and stressed that the Soviet Union is fully determined in the future, too, not to relax its efforts in this sphere. Indeed, it should be said that Leonid Ilich's reply is backed up by fully concrete proposals and fully concrete actions by our country. In precisely the past few months the Soviet Union has put forward a whole set of proposals encompassing in practice all the main armaments systems. These proposals are directed at achieving a turn away from an escalation of the arms race toward disarmament.

In this respect while it is giving priority to nuclear disarmament the Soviet Union is at the same time ready to strive to reach agreement on limiting and reducing any type of armaments. Here, of course, there may only be one principle: namely, equality and equal security.

In his reply to Palme, Leonid Ilich also draws attention to the fact that the Soviet Union is always ready to heed and to give consideration to the constructive proposals put forward by other governments or by the public. Indeed, it is well known that our country is in favor of meetings and talks including those at summit level. The Soviet Union itself in its concrete initiatives and concrete proposals is guided not only by the security interests of the Soviet state and the security interests of our friends and allies but also takes into account the security interests of those partners with whom we wish to sit down at the negotiating table. That is to say, we are in favor not of simply a one-sided solution but of a truly well-balanced solution. This is the way to security for everyone.